

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,
NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OPEN MESS
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2333)
New York Road
Plattsburgh
Clinton County
New York

HAER No. NY-326-BN

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service
Northeast Region
Philadelphia Support Office
U.S. Custom House
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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HAER No. NY-326-BN

Location: New York Road, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

UTM: 18.622060,4947520
Quad: Plattsburgh, NY-VT, 1:24,000 (1966)

Date of Construction: 1956

Architect/Engineer: Unknown

Present Owner: United States Air Force

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: The Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Open Mess, Building No. 2333, provided a place of recreation and relaxation to all active and retired noncommissioned officers and their families and guests.

Project Information: Building No. 2333 at Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB) is being documented in accordance with HAER standards to mitigate for the potential adverse effects of transferring deed of title to the property from federal ownership. The property transfer is a result of the disposal and reuse of Plattsburgh AFB, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1993. The mitigation is a stipulation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the U.S. Air Force, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (October 2000).

Michael Pumphrey
Deborah Dobson-Brown
Earth Tech, Inc.
1461 East Cooley Drive
Colton, CA 92324

Summary Description of Noncommissioned Officer Open Mess (Building No. 2333)

Layout

Building No. 2333 is a 21,176 square-foot, red brick building. It has a flat roof that supports various HVAC and exhaust equipment, clearly visible from the street. The building was constructed atop a concrete slab and is highly irregular in plan. The main section of Building No. 2333 measures 95'-6" x 80'-0". The building has three offsets measuring 46'-0" x 05'-0" (off the south façade), 88'-6" x 24'-0" (off the east façade) and 47'-0" x 46'-0" (off the southwest façade). The main entrance sequence to the building is clearly marked by a small vestibule on the west façade, measuring 10'-0" x 7'-0", and sporting double glass storefront doors. The interior of the building was not inspected.

Alterations/Additions

In 1967, a privacy fence was constructed off the north façade. In 1970, a 1,440 square-foot addition was made off the kitchen area.

Function

Building No. 2333 was designed, built, and used as a club and restaurant facility. Functions included small and large parties, daily meals and banquets. The Noncommissioned Officer Open Mess was used as a dining and recreation hall for base and transient NCO personnel.

Significance

The noncommissioned officers who maintained and supported the mission of Plattsburgh AFB during the Cold War contributed to America's most important military mission, nuclear deterrence as part of the strategic triad. They performed with sacrifice, dedication and excellence, and their service to the Air Force was invaluable. Accordingly, facilities such as the Noncommissioned Officer Open Mess provided that group of officers with a place of rest and relaxation, essential to maintaining morale and social needs. In was in that role, then, that Building No. 2333 played an important part in support of the larger SAC mission.

Sources

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United States Air Force

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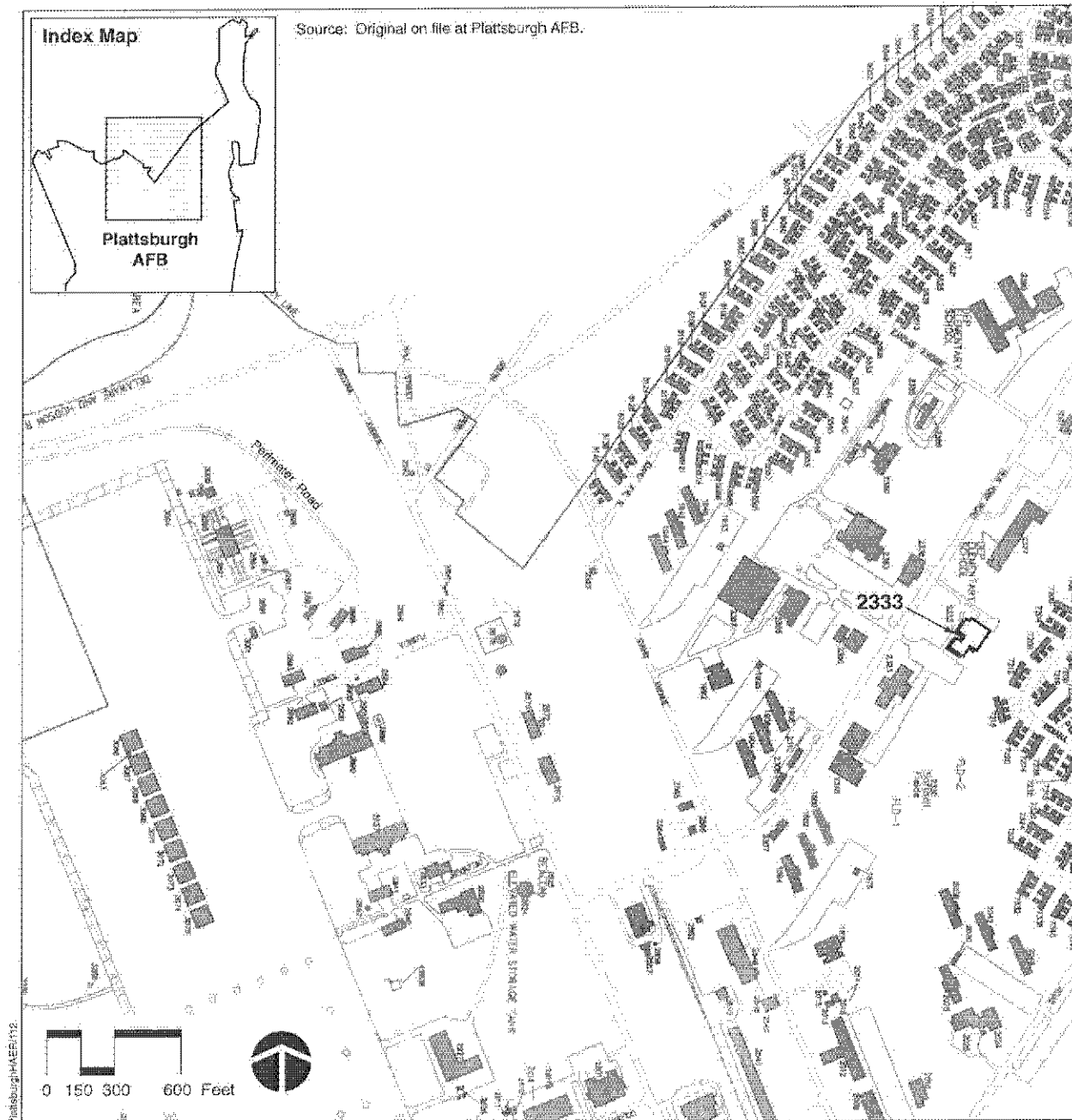
United States Air Force

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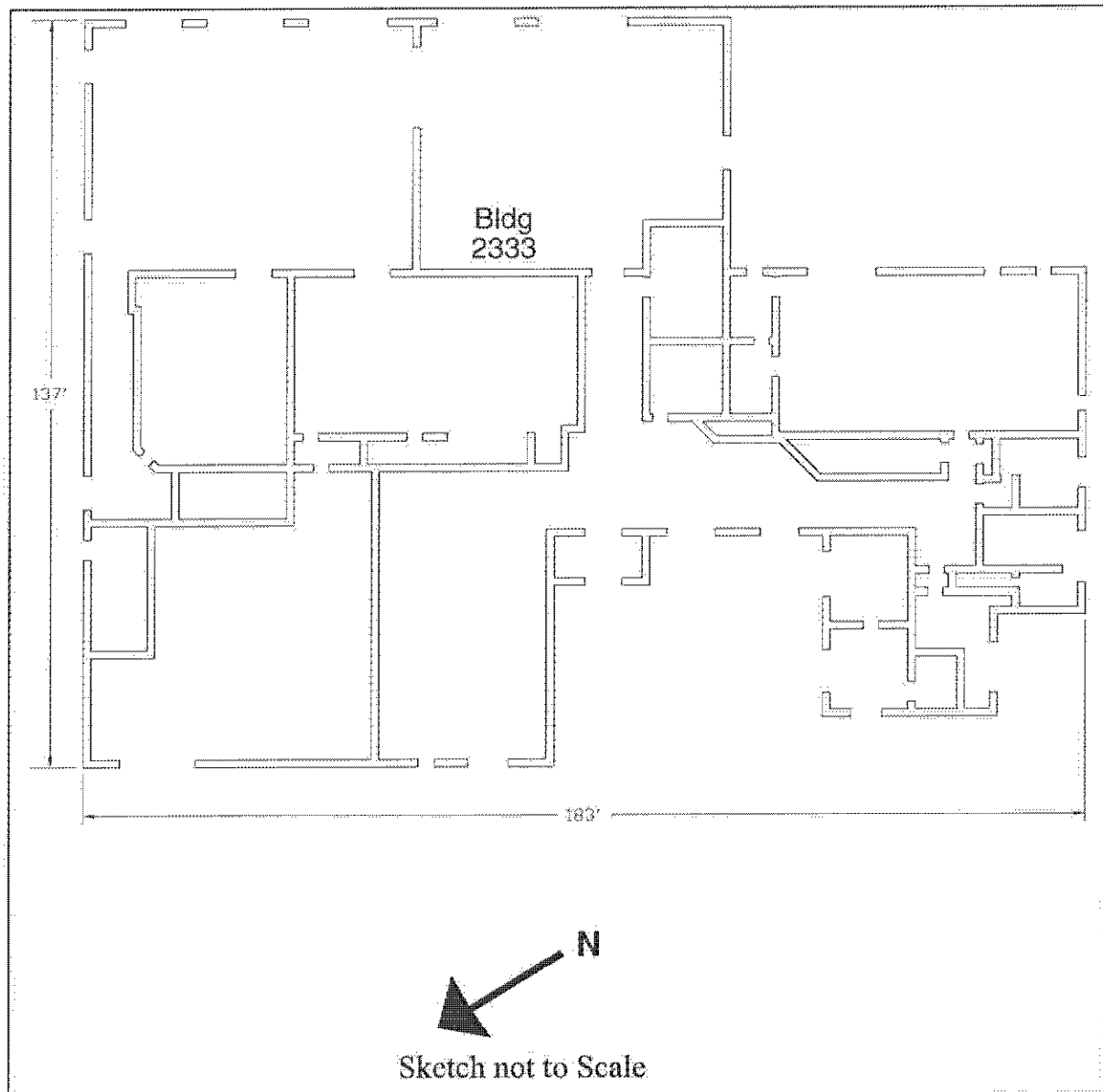
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Location Map for Noncommissioned Officer Open Mess Building, Building No. 2333
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SKETCH PLAN—NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OPEN MESS
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2333)
(Source: Plattsburgh AFB CAD File, Prepared by the United States Air Force, ca 2000)
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